West Virginia Writers' Project

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Research Worker Roscoe W. Brown. Date Research Taken April 5 to April 19th

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From sketches of Pocahontas History

From parts of the Geological Survey made for Pocahontas County.

NATURAL SETTING . CHAPTER THREE (Pocahontas County)

ROSCOE W. BROWN

April 19th 1941.
Roscoe W. Brown
Arbovale W. Va

(Part 1)

(Sec D)

EAST FORK OF GREENBRIER RIVER, The East Fork of Greenbrier River , heads in the Blister Swamp in the extreme North Eastern end of the County and flows in a South West direction to Thornwood . Here it swings to the West making a wide Level Valley between Thornwood and Durbin where it joins the West Fork . Upon the Flood- Plain, or Valley of the East Fork of the Greenbrier River the towns of Durbin, Frank, Bartow, Travelers-Repose , Hoover town , Pill Town, Thornwood, (once called Dunlevie) and Winterburn. and the Camp Thornwood No 2586 of the C.C.C. is situated at the mouth of Five mile hollow, about a mile above the old Winterburh Town.

From Thornwood to its source, Little River of the East Branch of the Greenbrier River, Pond Run, Abe Run., Bennet Run, flow into the East Fork from the Alleghany Mountain on the East, while Reservoir Hollow Run , Gum Cabin Hollow Run, Five Mile Hollow Run, Bearwollow Run, Campbell Run, and Mullenax Runs join it from the Burner Mountain Mountain Side on the West, Johns Run , heading on the Southern end of Burner Mountain flows to join the river at Frank. The East fork of the Greenbrier River has a length of 18.8 miles, with a total fall of 1175 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 62.2 feet and has a drainage area basin of 69.94 square miles .

The Little River , of the East branch of the Greenbrier River is the largest branch of the It has a length of 7.8 miles with 1500 feet fall, with a fall per mile of 192.3 feet per mile . The important Branches of the Little River are Buffalo Fork, which is 5.1 miles long, with a total fall of 660 feet , with a rate of fall per mile of 129.4 feet. the Branches of Buffalo Fork are Big Run and Tool Box hollow. Old House Run 1.8 miles long , and Slab Camp Run ,

WEST FORK OF THE GREENBRIER RIVER. The West Fork of the Greenbrier River heads at the Pocahontas - Randolph County line, East of Shavers Mountain and runs parallel on the East side of this Mountain in a well-entrenched meander to Durbin where it joins the East Fork to form the Greenbrier River proper. On Shavers Mountain on the West it receives a number of small streams which bear no names, except Cherry Run, Fill Run, Old Road Run, that flow in from the West side. On the East it receives the Mountain Lick Creek, and Little River, of the West Fork of the Greenbrier River, with its tributaries from the West Side of the Burner Mountain , Span Oak Run, Club House Run, Elk LickRun, and Hinkle Run, Gertrude Run, Elk Lick Run, Fox Run, Mikes Run , Snorting Lick Run. from the West side of the Middle Mountain .

The West Fork of the Greenbrier River has a total length of 16.9 miles with a total fall 925 feet, with a rate of fall per mile 54.7 feet . and has a drainage basin of 62. 62 square miles.

SHAVERS FORK OF CHEAT RIVER

Shavers Fork of Cheat River heads on the South end of Back Allegheny Mountain and Cheat Mountain at an elevation of 4600 feet and flows Northward through the Basin between these mountains into Randolph County. It continues across the latter County and into Tucker County where it is joined by the Dry Fork at Parsons to form Cheat River proper . Through out its entire course it follows rough topography, (and geologically speaking) mostly that of the Pottsville and Mauch Chunk Series, and hence id a regin of small development with very few towns along its watershed .

Its tributaries in Pocahontas County , are Black Run, Rocky Run, First Fork, and Second Fork,s. The Shavers Fork of Cheat has the highest elevation of any river in the State ; at Spruce in Pocahontas County , it has an elevation of 3853 feet, and the town of Cass on the Greenbrier River has an elevation of 2452 feet, which is 1401 lower than the Shavers Fork at these points.

The Shavers Fork of Cheat , in Pocahontas County has an entire length of 30 miles, with a total fall of 900 feet , with a rate of fall per mile of 90 feet, and has a drainage area basin of , above Second Fork, of 16,96 square miles.

The First Fork in Pocahontas County has an entire length of 5 miles with a fall of 850 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 190 feet per mile, and a drainage area basin of 9.97 square miles.

The Second Fork in Pocahontas County has an entire length of 4.1 miles, with a total fall of 1025 feet, an has a rate of fall per mile of 250 feet, and has a drainage area basin of 6.93 square miles.

Rockey Run, has a n entire length of 2.25 miles, and a total fall of 505 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 224.4 feet, and has a drainage area basin of 2.76 square miles.

Black Run, has an entire length of 2.55 miles, and a total fall of 410 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 160.8 feet; and has a drainage area basin of 2.06 square miles.

Shavers Mountain and Shavers Fork of Cheat River, and Shavers Run are all named in honor of Peter Shaver, a soldier of the American Revolution, and who was killed by the Indians at his home on the Tygarts Valley River along about the of 1782 Cheat River is any bodys guess as to how it come by its name; There is false wheat, cheat, still to be found along its course; On Shavers Mountain the moss covered stone rocks still fool you, by letting you down suddenly into pits covered by moss. It is still a surprise to the traveller to climb a couple thousand feet from the Greenbrier River, to find another on the top of the mountain, flowing in the opposite direction. There is a tradition that the Cheat River received its name from the Indians, of the Cherikee tribe, who called the river Woh-na-ye which means in the Indian language to Cheat, hence the name "Cheat River".

TYGART RIVER. The Tygart River, which forms the principal drainage basin of Barbour-County , a large portion of Upshur and Randolph Counties , has its source about one/m mile west pf Spruce in Pocahontas County with an elevation of approximately 4.000 feet After flowing westwardly for two miles it enters Randolph County , where it flows in a general northward direction across Randolph, Barbour, and Taylor Counties to join the West Fork at Fairmont, Marion County to form the Monongahela; Its length in Pocahontas County 2.2 miles with a drainage area of less than three square miles and has a total fall of 1075 feet ,with a rate of fall per mile of 488.6 feet

The Tygart River was so named from David Tygart, who came to the Tygart-River Valley in the 1750,s; left the valley when the family of Files and others were murdered by the Indians.

David Tygart and a Mr Files settled near each other, on an Eastern Branch of Monongahela, since known as Tygarts Valley River . Files settled at the mouth of a Creek where Beverly ,the former county seat of Randolph County, now stands , and Tygart a few miles higher up the river. They had not been there a great while when they concluded that it was not safe, and determined to go back to nearer the border settlements; but before they found it convenient to do so, the family of Files was attacked by the Indians, and every member killed, except one son, who was absent from the house, but within hearing and sight of the terrible massacre. He fled to the house of Tygart, and the timly warning given by him enabled the David Tygart family to escape and leave the country. This event occurred some time in the 1750,s;

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ELK RIVER;-

Elk River, is of minor importance to Pocahontas County, but goes to the County which is the birth place of Rivers for its source; it is one of the most importen streams of West Virginia; It has its source in the Old Field Fork of Elk 5½ miles North of Marlinton with an elevation of 3500 feet . It flows Northward for 13.6 miles in Pocahontas County, and across the southern extension of Randolph County ,; Near the Randolph- Webster County Line it veers sharply to a course South West, to four miles west of Webster Springs, where it turns North West, and so continues until it crosses the Webster- Braxton County line near Centralia . From here it flows to the West to Sutton , where it again turns to to the South- West and empties in to the Great Kanawaha River at Charleston

Including its tributaries of Dry Fork , Old Field Fork, and Big Spring Fork, it has a drainage area in Pocabntas County of 75.64 square miles.

Its principal branches in Pocahontas County is Dry Fork 5.1 miles long, Big Spring Fork, 9 miles long, and Old Field Fork, 8.8 miles long.

Their branches are; Black Holo Run, Douglas Fork, Big Run, Mill Creek, Run, Cup Run, Slaty Fork, Mill Run, and Crooked Fork .

The name of Elk River first origionate first with the Indians who calledit "Tiskelwah", which meant " River of Fat Elk " The Delewars called it To-que-min-cepe or Walnut River.

The Old Field Fork of Elk; received its name from the Fact that that the Indians had cleared about two acres of land on the Branch and was the encampment grounds of the the Indians; One of the most frequent Indian Trails seemed to have been from Clover Lick Creek ,up the Creek to Thomas Spring; thence over the mountain, crossong the notch near Clark Riders Farm; thence down by James Gibson,s to Elk. Thence a mile farther down was the encampment grounds where about two acres of land had cleared, and this was the OLD FIELD , that gave this branch of Elk its name; And is where Joseph Hannah the first Settler, first planted acrop of Corn..

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WILLIAMS RIVER :-

Williams River heads 3½ miles west of Marlinton on the west side of Day and Swago Mountains with an elevation 3,890 feet. It flows northward, cutting a deep precipitous gorge along the east side of Black Mountain, to the mouth of Laurel Creek there it turns north-westward, then continues its gorge like valley into Webster County with an elevation of 2753 feet at the County line, and empties into GauleyRiver three miles south east of Cowen with an elevation of 2155 feet, making a total fall of 1735 feet from its source to its mouth. Its length is 15.6 miles in Pocahontas County and 17.6 miles in Webster County, or a total of 33.2 miles.

Its drainage area is 130. 63 square miles, most of which was covered by a dense and mostly forest growth until the last few years. Throughout its entire len -gth it is a comparatively swift and shallow stream, with only occasional small stretches of bottom land. Other than the temporary population of Lumbermen, there are very few families living on its waters. Its principal tributaries in Pocahontas County, are Laurel Creek, Little Laurel Creek, Sugar Creek, Tea Creek, Kins Creek, and Bannock Shoals Run.

Tea Creek, is 5.5 miles long with a total fall of 1300 feet, with a rate of fall per mile of 236.3 feet, and has a drainage are basin of 11.50 square miles;

It received its name from the fact that the water of Tea Creek, is the color of weak Tea. The idea was for years was that this color was from leaves and roots of the trees - particularlarly spruce and hemlock. The Geologist now tell us the sulphur in the coal deposits is chemical which gives color to the water.

The Middle Fork of the Williams River; The Middle Fork has its source in several small branches on the west side of The Black Mountain one of which has an elevation of 4290 feet. The main branch flows in a northwest direction into Webster County to join Williams River at the Three Forks of the Williams River with an elevation of 2350 feet, making a total fall of 1940 feet or at the rate of 192.1 feet per mile. It has a drainage area 27.27 square miles, all of which is covered with a dense forest growth, but now mostly cut over, with only a few

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families living on its watershed. Its tributaries are Little Beechy Run, Beechy Run, Laurley Branch, Hell For Certain Branch, Coal Run, and McClintoc Run. Its total length is 10.1 miles long.

Many different traditions are advanced as to who was the rightful name - sake of the Williams River; It bears date of Prior 1795 There is a tradition that it was named after William Eweing , known as Swago Bill, he owned lands on Williams River,; It has been said that when he moved to Ohio in the year of 1810 he sold his Williams River holdings for a rifle gun, and a certain amount of " cut Money" This William Eweing was a soldier of the Revolution.

(Some folks are of the opinion that The Williams River was named for William Lewis Lovely, who at one time of a very early date ,had large Land Grants, on the waters of Williams River)

GAULEY RIVER
CRANBERRY RIVER:- Cranberry River heads 7 miles west of Marlinton at the union of Cranberry and Black Mountains of the Ewe Range . It has a rapid fall from its source to the Cranberry Glades , where it flows slow ans slugishly across the Glades for some two miles . It continues north westward into Webster County crossing the county line at an elevation of 2,985 feet , and flows in the same genral course for 10 miles , where it swings abruptly to the south west, and crosses into Nicholas County to join Gauley River at Cranberry Station. It has a total length of 32.35 miles with a fall of 2,035 feet of at the rate of 62.9 feet per mile . It has a drainage area 74.08 square miles , The greater part of its water shed id covered with forest, the greater part of which has been cut over in recent years.

Except a/t at Cranberry Glades the stream is swift and shallow. Its principal tributaries in Pocahontas County , are Tumbling Rock Run, North Fork, And Charles Creek.

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DOGWAY FORK Of Cranberry River:-

Dogway Fork heads on the south side of ~~side~~ of the Kennison Mountain near the summit and flows in a general North West direction into Webster County To join Cranberry 1½ miles north of Dogway. It has a ~~general~~ total length length of 8.2 miles with a fall of 1435 feet , or at a rate of 175 feet per mile

Its drainage area is 9.. 73 square miles.

North Fork of Cranberry River :- The North Fork of Cranberry River has its source on the West side of the Black Mountain 1 mile north west of Barlow Top.

It flows in a western course for 5.9 miles where it empties into Cranberry-River. It has a drainage area 9.83 square miles . Its tributaries are , Hunting-Run, Cash Camp Run, and Left Fork.

CHARLES CREEK;- Charles Creek is a small stream , heads just east of Blue Knob, on the southern end of Kennison Mountain. It flows north for 2.35 miles and joins Cranberry River near the center of the Cranberry Glades . Its drainage area is 3.22 Square miles .

CRANBERRY GLADES OF THE CRANBERRY RIVER :-

No section of Pocahontas County ,or the State of West Virginia is of more interest to Scientis ,than the Cranberry Glades from which the Cranberry River took ~~its name~~ its name ; At this place it is deemed proper to give an description of the section of the CRANBERRY GLADES . due to the fact that the Charles Creek flows into the Cranberry River in the center of the Glades .

The high region covering the western part of Pocahontas County ,drained by hundreds of clear mountain brooks that flow into the Cranberry, the Williams, the Cauley, and the Elk Rivers,was once known as thw Wilderness' or the 'Wilds of Pocahontas County 'a region until recently overgrown with a dense, undisturbed forest and abounding in game of many kinds . Here in the midst of the Wilderness and on the border of the greatest forest remaining in the State, are the Cranberry Glades near the head of the Cranberry River.

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there is in reality, only one glade, containing from 250 to 300 acres of deep wet soil overgrown in some places with a thicket of shrubbery and in others carpeted with lichens, mosses, and sedges. Within the glade there are 5 openings the names and areas of which are given below:

Big Glade ..... 56 acres

Flag Glade ....20 acres

Long Glade .....14 acres

Round Glade ..... 8 Acres

Little Glade .... 2 acres

Each open area is seperated from the others by winding and sluggis streams which are bordered by fringes of Alder, Hollies, and other shrubs.

There is, perhaps, no area of equal extent in West Virginia which is of greater importance for its influence on water flow, nor more interesting to the student and collector on account of its varied forms of plant and animal life than this glady region lying at an elevation 3,400 feet above the sea and surrounded by mountains which rise from 1,000 to 1500 feet above it.

A few of the characteristic species of plants, mammals, and birds are, as follows .

[Plants) Red Spruce, Abundant omn margins of the glades and on the mountain sides

Quaken Aspen, Growing on margin of the glades.

Mountain- Ash, Common around glades,

Ground Hemlock, Shrub growing abundantly in wet shady places.

North Rattle Snake Plantain. Found under Hemlock trees near edge of the glade

Rose Pogonia. Common in open glades.

Horned Bladderwort. Found growing in Big Glade.

Round-leaved Sundew. Common in open glades

Sphagnum Moss. Found in the glades.

American Cranberry. Common to edges of the open glades

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Part 1)

Roscoe W. Brown.

Jan - 11th 1941.

(SEC D)

SAULSBERY RUN The Saulsbury Run is a small branch flowing into Deer - Creek below the town of Old Boyer, It has a length of 4.7 miles with a total fall of 1050 feet ,with a fall of 233.4 feet per mile ,and has a drainage basin area of 4.90 square miles . There was situate on this branch the Lumber Town locally known as Krider Town , located just East and near the old road way on the Run . The Lumber Company that operated the timber on this branh known as Saulsbery Creek ~~was~~ was known by the firm name of "Orwig and Krider Lumber Company.

The Saulsbery Run received its name from an old pioneer by the name of William Saulisbery, who had some connection with Major Jacob Warwick, and who was a Revolutionary War Veteran. His affidavit as a Revolutionary War Veteran was taken while living in Pocahontas County on Sept 5th 1832. As follows; (Born 1742 , Entered the service at Warm Springs in May 1774 under Captain John - Lewis, Lt, Samuel Vance , and Ensigh Jacob Warwick, Colonel Charles Lewis Commanding the regiment; was in the Battle of Point Pleasant. Was drafted for three months at Warwicks Fort 1777) This Warwicks Fort mentioned was the Fort at what is now the town of Durmore . Jacob Warwick had an Indian Fort at that point, but had a tract of land containing 340 Acres on the Deer Creek at the mouth of the Saulsbery Run. It has been a tradition handed down that this branch was named in honor of this William Saulis bery . (See Annals of Bath County for the above Affidavit) (This information was given years ago by the venerable James Kerr)

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BUFFALO RUN - The Buffalo Run is a small branch of Deer Creek , South of the Saulsbery Creek , and has a total length of 4.2 miles long , and a total fall 1075 feet , with a fall of 255.9 feet per mile, and has a drainage basin area of 4.27 square miles . The old Pioneers conferred the title on the Buffalo Run and the Buffalo Mountain , due to the fact that the famous Buffalo were found on the Buffalo mountain and especially on the Buffalo Run. The Old Buffalo Lick " where the pioneers would kill the Buffalo ,s may be found above the the John Hollen Farm on the Buffalo Run , The property line of the U.S.F.S and the John Hollen Farm pass through the lick which now has the appearance of a pond of stagnated water.

TRIMBLES- RUN Trimbles Run is a small branch , that flows into Duncan Run a branch of Deer Cfeek . Trimbles Run 2.9 miles long , with a fall of 1200 feet , and has a fall of 413. 7 feet per mile and has a drainage area of 1.70 square mile s

This Branch locally known as Trimbles run received its name from William or Bonapart Trimble who owned the land on trimbles Run which he conveyed to Edward Ervin. Trimble had a grant for the land bearing date of 1797

DUNCAN - RUN The Duncan Run which is the lower part of the Trimbles Run and including the Trimbles Run is 4.05 miles long with a total fall of 1240 feet and has a fall 306.1 feet per mile, and a drainage basin area of about 5.56 square miles , This Branch has been known locally as Duncans Run, since the very first settlement of the Eastern part of Pocahontas County, It was first recited in the land Records In the William Nottingham Patent bearing date of June 1780 It appear that there isn,t any thing available in regard to the old pioneer "Duncan" for whom this branch was so named.

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RILEYS -CREEK . The Rileys Creek was formerly known as Hartmans Creek, from 1795 to about the time of the Civil War, when it was changed to that of Rileys Creek , in honor of John Riley who had then purchased a part of the Godlip Hartman farm being the Willam Hartman share of the Hartman estate lying on the West side of the old County Road . The Eastern part of the branch above the Pine Grove Road has three Branches , known as Mill Stone Run , and is Where Patrick Bruffey found the stones from which he made a set of the Mill Stones that was used over a hundred yea in the Flour Mill formerly owned by the North Fork Milling Company

The other two branches have been locally known as Spruce Hollow and Buck Lick Run which received their names from the old pioneers who had their Deer Licks on the Branches . The Riley Run from the source of the Mill Stone Run is 3.65 Miles in length and a fall of 1100 feet , with a fall of 301. 4 feet per mile and has a drainage basin area of 2.39 square miles.

HOSPITAL RUN.- The Hospital Run is a small Spring Run that gives rise in the flat land East of the Village of Arbovale , and flows South of the Village of Arbovale in a North- West course to Deer Creek . It has a length of 1.4 miles with a total fall of 160 feet, with a fall of 114.3 feet per mile and has a drainage area of about. 85 square miles . Thomas Jarvis, James Rucker, and Benone Griffin received land Grants that covered the Hospital Run by surveys bearing date of 1780 , The Hospital Run is formed from five cold springs , and the lines of the above named Grants were so fixed to give a spring on each tract of land. The name of the Hospital Run has been handed down to the present time, from the very early settlement of the Eastern part of Pocahontas County; the instance, or circumstance, that gave the Hospital Run its name of historical importance dates back prior to the month of June 1780 , and the instance may have occurred before the period of the American Revolution ; evidence of the fact is that the pioneer James Rucker Sr when making a survey of a tract of 361 acres bearing date of June 10th 1780,

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states the fact that it is upon the waters of the Hospital Run , which substantiates the fact that it happened during the period of the Revolution or before it.

The survey was made while Pocahonta County was under the regime of Augusta County; the same survey and Grant is recorded in Augusta County Grant Book- No 1 at Page 70 At that date this little branch with its ice cold springs was locally known as HOSPITAL RUN.

There are many different stories and traditions of different kind, are handed down in regard to the circumstance , that led to the naming of the Hospital Run .

We hereby submit the following incidents , which has been handed down by a direct line of decendants of the very earliest settlers of the Greenbank Community which was made about the year of 1770.

The early pioneers of the Greenbank Community found it necessary to keep a constant look out for hostile Indians, and to have all means of defense ready in case of a sudden attack . The Indians were so deceitful that the only closest watchfulness , saved the settlement from danger and death. Women and children Boys were taken to the old Warwick Fort , and a gun given them to drill in the loop holes of the Fort , in order to be ready for any emergency that might arise.; with these experiences , the young folks grew up to be real brave men and women , knowing how to take care of themselves.

At one time when the Indians were seen prowling around in the neighborhood, and the settlers were warned , and made hast to the old Fort , and all were safely inside the stockade , and walls of the Fort ; One morning when it was fogy, a man by the name of " Sloan" left the fort crossed the North Fork Creek , to a Mellon or Potato patch, he did,nt come back when expected ; about noon a party went out in search for him , and found him dead, and scalped with an arrow through his body.

Deeds like this were dear to the hearts of the Indians , they were deeds that made a real warrior out of an Indian; and which honor any Indian would risk his life over and over again.

Chap 4 Pocahontas

Dec. 24, 1939

Nelle Y. McLaughlin

Taken from the affidavit of Jacob Kinnison given on August 8, 1833, in order to obtain benefit of an Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832, and recorded in the County Clerk's Office of Pocahontas County.

Jacob Kinnison was a resident of Pocahontas County and was seventy-six years old on May 9, 1833. He entered the service of the United States as a volunteer under Captain Arbuckle in the month of March, 1777. At the time of entering the service, he lived in the Little Levels where he now resides. He served ten months as a volunteer and during this whole term of service he was stationed at the mouth of the Great Kanawha at Point Pleasant. He marched directly from the Little Levels to Point Pleasant under the command of Ensign John Williams. While stationed at Point Pleasant, he was entirely under the command of Captain Arbuckle and his subaltern officers, Lieut. James Gilmer and Ensign John Williams, there being but one company stationed there at that time. At the expiration of the said ten months service, the company, or at least those who had volunteered from Greenbrier were discharged by General Hand who came down from Pittsburgh. A part of the company that was stationed at Point Pleasant, to which Jacob Kinnison was attached, had been enlisted for three years in the regular service and this part was not discharged when he was.

The nature of his services while at the Point was to guard the frontier settlements of Virginia against the hostile depredations of the Indians which were so frequently and desperately perpetrated by them during the Revolutionary War.

REVOLUTIONARY WAR SOLDIERS

During the year 1779, he again entered the serfices of his country as an Indian spy and served as such during the summer for a term of six months. The nature of his services as a spy was to scout the country and mountains from a place called Fork Lick on the Elk River to include the waters of Stony Creek a branch of Greenbrier River, bounded by the trace leading to Tygarts Valley, including the valley mountains, a place called Clover Lick on the Greenbrier River, then to Drinnan's Fort and then to the Little Levels. He was almost continually engaged in active service not being allowed to remain at the fort for more than two or three days at a time. When there seemed to be any cause for alarm, he was constantly kept in active service. His companion as a spy was John Bridger also of the Little Levels, Pocahontas County, who was killed by the Indians the following spring. The Captain of the Militia to whose company he belonged and by whom he was engaged as a spy, was Captain John Cook. During the time he was thus engaged, he was not engaged in any civil pursuits and was not engaged in any skirmishes or battles with the enemy.

Jacob Kinnison lived in Pocahontas County at the time he applied for benefit mentioned before and it was the same place he had lived at the time he engaged in the services and defense of his country. He entered the service to go to Point Pleasant in March 1777; he entered the services as an Indian spy April 15, 1779 and was discharged Oct. 15, 1779.

Taken from records in the office of the County Clerk of Pocahontas County.

John Bradshaw, aged 74 years on the second day of Feburary, 1833, a resident of Pocahontas County, personally appeared and made oath to the following in order to obtain benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

Mr. Bradshaw said that he had entered the service as an Indian spy in the spring of the year of 1776, and that he was just then entering the eighteenth year of his age. At the time he entered the service as a spy, he was a private in a company of Militia commanded by Captain John Henderson. He said that he then resided in that part of Virginia which is now in the County of Monroe, but that whether it was then Botetourt or not, he does not know. Before he entered the service, he took the oath of fidelity and the oath to perform the duties of a spy. He went into the service as a spy on the first day of May 1776 and was discharged on the first day of November following, having continued in service six months and until that season of the year arrived when the fear of Indian depredations no longer existed, owing to the fact that the Indians, as was their general custom, had retired to their winter quarters. Again in the spring of 1777, he entered the service as an Indian spy on the fifteenth day of April and was discharged as before on the first day of November, having performed a tour of six months and a half. He again went into service as an Indian spy on the fifteenth day of April 1778 and continued in service until the first day of November following. He commenced his expeditions as an Indian

spy again on May 1, 1779, making in all two years and one month service that he performed as an Indian spy.

The nature of his services as an Indian spy was to leave Cook's Fort on Indian Creek and be out from three to four days each week, then return and others would go for the same length of time. The companion who was mostly with John Bradshaw was a man by the name of James Ellis, and he did not know what had become of him, but as he was considerably older than himself, thought it likely that he was dead. He sometimes went in company with Colonel Samuel Estell of Kentucky. Their practice was for two to go together, and when they returned another two would start out. The place where he performed these services as an Indian spy was in the gaps and low places in the chain of mountains between the William Safferty plantation on the New River and the head waters of Laurel Creek. When they met the spies from Burnside Fort, they traveled the country which included the waters of Big and Little Stony Creek, the head waters of Indian Draft, a branch of Indian Creek, and the head waters of Wolf Creek. The distance or space of country over which he had to travel was supposed to be about thirty miles. In performing the duties of a spy, they had to carry their provisions with them, it being against the nature or their oath and instructions, and also jeapordized their own safety to make a fire at night no matter how inclement the weatner might be.